

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONTEV 00541 091831Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W
-----092249Z 113108 /70

R 091805Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3182

UNCLAS MONTEVIDEO 0541

FOR ASST SECRETARY-DESIGNATE TODMAN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, UY
SUBJ: URUGUAYAN NOTE ON SHOE PROBLEM

REF: MONTEVIDEO 0542

1. REFTEL SUMMARIZED DEMARCHES MADE TO US BY AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND APICUE (URUGUAYAN-AMERICAN TRADE PROMOTING ASSOCIATION) EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER THE ADVERSE IMPACT ON URUGUAY OF THE TARRIF COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION ON SHOE IMPORTS, IF PUT INTO EFFECT. TODAY, FOREIGN MINISTER ROVIRA CALLED ME IN TO PRESENT A NOTE VERBAL OFFICIALLY OUTLINING THE GOU'S VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT. IN HIS ACCOMPANYING REMARKS HE EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE ADVERSE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT WHICH THE US MEASURE, AS NOW FORESEEN, WOULD HAVE ON URUGUAY. HE APPEALED FOR OUR GOVERNMENT'S SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION OF SOME MEANS WHEREBY WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN UNFAIRLY HARSH BURDEN ON URUGUAY WOULD BE ALLEVIATED. THE MINISTER TOLD ME THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO MAKE ITS NOTE PUBLIC THE AFTERNOON OF FEB. 10 IN VIEW OF THE INTENSE PUBLIC CONCERN ON THE MATTER.
2. I ASSURED THE MINISTER THAT THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMING THE DEPARTMENT FULLY ON URUGUAYAN CONCERN AND WAS ALSO PROVIDING

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TEXTS OF DEMARCHES MADE BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. I TOLD HIM THAT I HAD ALSO RECEIVED INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, WHO ARE SOON SCHEDULED TO VISIT WASHINGTON, AND WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WHEN IN WASHINGTON THEY BE GIVEN EVERY APPROPRIATE ACCESS TO CONCERNED OFFICIALS SO THAT THEY CAN MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN.

3. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT YOU CAN TAKE AN INTEREST IN THIS MATTER AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN TAKE ACTION WHICH WOULD AVOID, IN THE PRESIDENT'S FINAL DETERMINATION, SO ADVERSE AN IMPACT ON URUGUAY AS IS

INTRINSIC IN THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS. A STRONG CASE IS EASILY MADE THAT THE US MEASURE AS PROPOSED WOULD VIRTUALLY KILL A NEW

EXPORT INDUSTRY WHICH EMPLOYS ABOUT 9,000 PEOPLE AND WHOSE PRODUCTION LAST YEAR WAS VALUED AT ABOUT 12 MILLION DOLLARS. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COSTS TO THIS SMALL COUNTRY WOULD THUS BE SEVERE, AND THE IMPACT ON URUGUAY FAR MORE SEVERE THAN ON OTHER SHOE EXPORTERS. THE GOU NOTE IS BEING TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL.
SIRACUSA

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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